financial assistance is given to Women's Development Corporations, Public Sector Corporations, autonomous bodies and voluntary organisations to train poor women, mostly in non-traditional trades and to ensure their employment in these areas.

Vocational Education

†2137. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity for providing vocational education per year to youths, under existing education system of the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the present education system in the country is inadequate for providing vocational education;

(c) if so, whether there is need to increase such capacity; and

(d) if so, target of Government for the coming years in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MININSTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SMT.) RITA VERMA]: (a) Under the present education system, Vocational Education at the secondary level is being provided through existing normal schools in the country. Under the scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education, the Government has provided financial assistance to State Governments to open 19455 sections in 6728 schools. This has created an intake capacity of 10 lakh students in the vocational stream.

(b) to (d) "Education" is in the concurrent list of Constitution and the responsibility for education up to secondary level rests with the State Governments. However, keeping in view the importance and anticipated growth in the demand of vocational courses, it has been decided to revise the existing scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education. The Government has proposed for a provision of Rs. 515 crores in the 10th Plan to give a major boost to Vocationalisation of Secondary Education.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.